

Application No. 09/661,778

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Currently Amended) A label making apparatus that makes labels by performing a full cutting and a half cutting on a sheet, comprising:

a cutter comprising a single cutting blade that cuts the sheet along a desired line;

a switching device coupled to the cutter that switches a state of the cutter between a full cutting state and a half cutting state, the cutter performing the full cutting in the full cutting state and the half cutting in the half cutting state wherein the sheet is cut partway in a direction of a thickness of the sheet, on the sheet;

a drive unit that drives the switching device to switch the state of the cutter between the full cutting state and the half cutting state; and

a controller coupled to the switching device that controls the switching device drive unit so that the half cutting is performed at least twice on the sheet before the full cutting is performed thereon.

2. (Previously Amended) The label making apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the cutter and the switching device are part of a self-propelled cutting unit, the state of the cutter can be switched between the full cutting state and the half cutting state at ends of a traveling path of the self-propelled cutting unit, the switching device takes selectively one of at least three positions and achieves one of the full cutting state and the half cutting state commonly at least two positions of the at least three positions, each of the at least two positions where the switching device commonly achieves the one of the full cutting state and the half cutting state existing on both sides of another position respectively and in a line

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parallel to the traveling path, the switching device achieving another of the full cutting state and the half cutting state at the another position.

3. (Original): The label making apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the switching device achieves the full cutting state at the at least two positions and each of the at least two positions where the switching device achieves the full cutting state exists on both sides of the another position where the switching device achieves the half cutting state.

4 - 6. (Canceled)